(c) The following steps are being taken to bridge the gap between Demand and Supply :—

(i) Refinery capacity in the country has been increased during the last two years by commissioning of new grass-root refineries and expansion of existing refineries. With this, the refining capacity in the country presently is marginally higher than demand.

(ii) With the present refining installed capacity of 114.7 MMTPA as on 01-10-2001, the domestic requirement of petroleum products is largely met from domestic production.

(iii) Imports/exports of petroleum products are limited to imbalances in demand and production of specific products.

Adulteration of Diesel in Delhi

2377. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Apex Court had directed the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to supply diesel which contains .05 percent sulphur;

(b) whether it is a fact that diesel supplied now to the various petrol pumps in Delhi and elsewhere was allegedly found adulterated at different stages before reaching the filling stations; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to appoint an agency to conduct surprise checks at petrol pumps, oil depots and tankers in order to collect sample of contaminated diesel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No case of adulteration of diesel at different stages before reaching the filling station has been detected so far. As a part of the special campaign as per the Order of the Court, the Anti Adulteration Cell Officers inspected four on road vehicles and taken samples, but no adulteration has been detected.

(c) An Anti Adulteration Cell, headed by Director General, has been set up under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to check adulteration of petrol and diesel.